

### Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 7 with the following amended paragraph:

Figures 1A-1C are autoradiograms that confirm identity of the IGF-dependent IGFBP-4 protease as PAPP-A. Figure 1A indicates that IGFBP-4 protease activity in the absence (-) or presence (+) of added IGF-II is inhibited by presence of the indicated titer of polyclonal PAPP-A/pro major basic protein (MBP) antibodies (anti-PAPP-A), but not in the presence of the indicated titer of nonspecific rabbit IgG. Figure 1B indicates the immunodepletion of IGFBP-4 protease activity from HCFM. HCFM was precleared with a 1:50 titer of non-specific rabbit IgG, followed by immunodepletion with the indicated titer of PAPP-A antibodies, and then assayed for IGFBP-4 protease activity in the absence (-) or presence (+) of added IGF-II. Figure 1C indicates the IGF-dependent IGFBP-4 protease activity of PAPP-A/proMBP (0.5µg) purified from pregnancy sera in the absence (-) or presence (+) of 5 nM IGF-II.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 34, line 7 with the following amended paragraph:

Results are the mean  $\pm$  SEM of "n" samples. --: Indicates at or below assay sensitivity, GC: granulosa cell, FF<sub>e</sub>: estrogen-dominant follicular fluid, FF<sub>a</sub>: androgen-dominant follicular fluid.

Please add the Abstract on the attached page to the application.